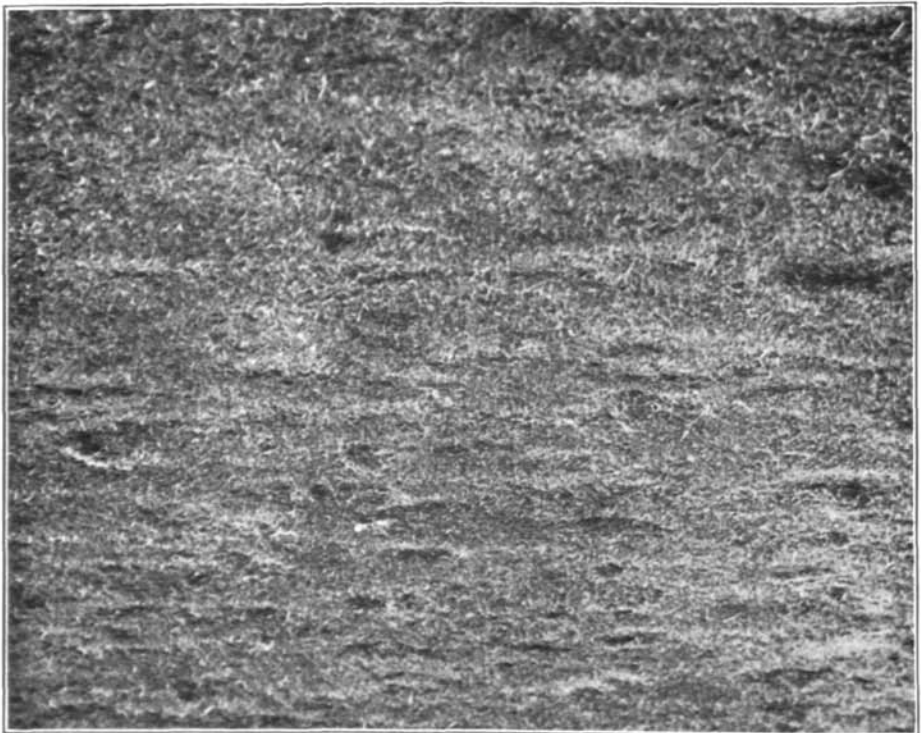


The Vicissitudes of the Grass Tee

By R. A. OAKLEY

Those who attended the Open Championship at Inwood this year doubtless noticed the condition of No. 12 tee after the first few days of play. It was a sight and a convincing bit of evidence that grass tees are not the easiest parts of the course to maintain. No. 12 at Inwood is a 108-yard hole, just a pitch to a small, well-trapped green with a water hazard in front. The green is banked to the shot, the upper half being somewhat of the nature of a terrace. When the cup is forward there is a distinct advantage to the player to be short rather than beyond it; therefore, the shots are played with all the bite possible. A glance at the accompanying illustration is all that is needed to convince one of the fact that No. 12 tee was literally cut to pieces during the week of the Open Tournament. The picture falls far short of doing justice to the scene. A divot ranging from three inches to a



Section of No. 12 tee at Inwood the second day of the finals of the Open Tournament, July 14, 1923. A glance at this is all that is needed to convince one of the difficulty of maintaining grass tees.

foot or more in length was taken at every shot. Only one player, so far as is known, held the view that such terrific divot-taking was unnecessary. He was a professional originally from abroad. He contended that the shot could be played quite as well by teeing the ball properly, and if this were done very little turf-taking would result. This professional seemed to be

the only one who had a heart. He must have been a greenkeeper at one time. Whether or not there is anything to his contention, is a matter for players to decide. The chief object of calling up the case is to instill into the minds of those who have not given the difficulty of upkeep of grass tees a moment's thought, a feeling of intelligent appreciation of what the greenkeeper is up against. Players should bear in mind that it is humanly impossible always to keep grass tees in good condition. They are subject to more wear than any other part of the course. Too frequently they are built up so that no reasonable amount of water will keep them from becoming exceedingly dry. They bake and burn regardless of the best attention the greenkeeper can give them. But grass tees are desirable. They are almost a necessity. And the greenkeeper must struggle along as best he can. There is, however, something that the club can do to help him. It can in most cases do away with its built-up tees. It can make available an abundant water supply so that the tees can be watered thoroughly. When needed, it can provide money for fertilizer and compost. Also, it can provide for the necessary labor to care for a replacement turf bed for patching. If the club does its part in these matters, the competent greenkeeper will give the members the best grass tees possible.

One green-committee chairman makes his tees with a bare area back of the tee plates, and grass back of that. He says the average player will tee up on the bare area for the advantage it gives him in distance. There may be something to his scheme.

Secrets of Success in Greenkeeping

By GEORGE WINDSOR*

Good greenkeeping is the mainstay of a golf course. May I point out what in my opinion are the secrets of success in greenkeeping?

STUDY.—At the present time, when the art of greenkeeping is in so rapid a stage of development, one of the most obvious needs is a good book on the subject. This need however is to a great extent being filled by *THE BULLETIN OF THE GREEN SECTION*, a publication which may be regarded as "the eyes of the greenkeeper." It is an instrument through which it is hoped that the wastage of thousands of dollars being spent annually on golf courses without appreciable results being obtained, may be corrected. There is no excuse for ignorance.

PLAN YOUR WORK.—Use your head. Brain is more essential than brawn. Set your goal and strive to attain it. The most important part of every man's work in the world is done with his brains. A greenkeeper depends on his brains first to get him a job, and secondly to suggest quick or original methods of work so as to get him up in the world. The greenkeepers who get the most done and still seem to have the most time on their hands for other things are the ones who go at their work from a carefully mapped out plan. Time used in thinking out things the night before or at the beginning of each day, is time invested in advance.

CONSERVE TIME AND ENERGY.—Never waste time on things not neces-

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